



“Why does she stay with him?” is the wrong question.

The right question is: **“How can she break free?”**

The crucial answer: YOU.

I pray you cannot personally relate to Maria’s story. And I pray you will understand: Maria desperately needs your help right now.

It was not long ago, around 2:00 am one lonely night in Eastern Idaho...

Maria (not her real name) sat huddled in a corner of the bedroom. She clutched her phone, trembling. Down the hall, her kids slept, unaware. But Maria had not closed her eyes. Not once. She couldn’t let that happen. Nick would be back. Angry. Again. For no good reason at all. Again.

The truth was, he’d never stop hurting her or the kids.

Maria knew this now.

What she did not know — had no idea — was *how to get out.*

Before I tell you more, I ask you to consider: **Will you please donate now to give vulnerable Idaho families like Maria’s their best chance of breaking free of the trap of their abuser?**

Nick was consumed by darkness. His rage had become a black hole.

Maria had to find a way to escape with her kids before it was too late.

But how? (*Nick controlled everything: home, money, car, kids...*)

* You can be “the how” for a woman like Maria who urgently needs a caring someone like you to step in for her and her kids at this very moment.

When a woman like Maria finds Catholic Charities of Idaho, we mobilize resources to shield her and her children:

First, we create an exit plan. This can be very dicey. Sometimes, an abuser will *frame his victim so she's the one who goes to jail*. But we do everything we can to avoid such worst-case scenarios. It's your kindness that funds our ability to intervene and protect at all hours of the day and night.

Then, we get them out of there. It's your compassion that funds a significant fraction of the cost of secure safe emergency housing, making it affordable for women like Maria. (Shelters can be unsafe and have a waitlist. For subsidized housing, the wait can be up to 3 years.)

Finally, we address other needs. It's your generosity that funds essential services such as job training, parenting classes, nutrition planning, faith-based counseling for mother and children, moral support for emotional safety, even a makeover to help a woman who's been beset by ugliness for so long feel beautiful again.

Please donate today, so that no Idaho family facing abuse is alone and helpless when they absolutely must get out right now.

When you donate to CCI, you're not merely giving money — you're embodying Christ's love by giving your Idaho neighbors strength, dignity, opportunity, and hope.

Thank you for refusing to stand by while Idaho families are trapped by abuse and just need someone to show them a way out.



Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eddie Trask'.

Eddie Trask

Executive Director, Catholic Charities of Idaho

P.S. **Please donate now**, while you're thinking of it. You'll feel so good knowing you're helping women like Maria get her children and herself to safety once and for all. With you there for them, they'll never have to fear their abuser again. Thank you for your compassion!

P.P.S. Rush your gift to bring families to safety faster at ccidaho.org/donate